The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters of direct interest to the labor movement, legislative, and political fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918. Entered as second-class matter September 26, 1921, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Write Your Senators And Congressmen to Repeal T-H Law

WHOLE NO. 1098 | WILLIAM GREEN, *President* | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JULY 26, 1949 | GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* | VOL. 39, NO. 30

NLRB Throws Out Boycott Injunction After Completion of Project at Issue

Washington.—The viciousness of the injunction provisions of the Taft-Hartley law was emphasized in a recent decision of the National Labor Relations Board which, ironically enough, favored the union position.

The board threw out secondary boycott charges brought against a group of building trades unions 10 months ago which were used to obtain a temporary injunction forcing the unions to continue work on the building project.

Here's the rub! As might be expected, the project itself was completed within the 10-month period required for the NLRB to act. So, the union victory before the board was indeed a hollow triumph.

The case also served to highlight the feud between the NLRB and its general counsel, Robert N. Denham, over the agency's jurisdiction in local labor disputes. The board contends that it should keep hands off. Denham argues that the agency should take jurisdiction over every case, large or small, "affecting commerce."

Mr. Denham is in charge of issuing unfair labor practice complaints. He issued one last September against 7 local unions and the Building and Construction Trades Council in connection with the building of an $80,000 drive-in theater at Bridgeville, Pa. Mr. Denham also obtained an injunction, as required by the Taft-Hartley law, against the unions pending the NLRB's action in the case.

The charges were based on an attempt by a business agent for Local 8 of the AFL Electrical Workers to persuade members of other unions on the construction project to quit work because the electrical subcontractor had not employ members of the electrical union. Some of the subcontractors' employes, at least, were members of a non-AFL union.

The board held that the contract for and all the subcontractors but one bought all their materials from suppliers within the state and performed all their work within the state. That one did only $600 worth of work on the theater.

The board decided, therefore, that the impact of the dispute on interstate commerce was not great enough to take up the case.

The board has been trying to stay out of local disputes, but cannot prevent the general counsel from issuing complaints. The board's position is that the agency has jurisdiction over everything "affecting commerce" and that when his office issues a complaint the board must decide the case on the merits of the case. The board disagrees with the decline in such cases, and Mr. Denham continues to issue complaints.

1949 Convention Call

To All Affiliated Unions Greetings:

You are hereby notified that, in pursuance of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the 68th Convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in the Civic Auditorium, St. Paul, Minn., beginning at 10 o'clock Monday morning, October 3, 1949, and will continue in session from day to day until the business of the Convention shall have been completed.

Once again we convene in annual convention after the termination of World War II—moved by feelings of uncertainty and increasing disappointment. Work rs everywhere are asking why, following such a long period of time, no substantial progress has been made in the negotiation of an international agreement providing for international peace and security. The facts seem to make it clear that failure to arrive at an international agreement is due to the negative, antagonistic and selfish policy of Soviet Russia. Apparently the Russian government seeks to extend and expand Communist control over certain nations of Europe, Asia and elsewhere throughout the world. The fight, therefore, for international peace and security is supplemented by the fight against the aggression of Russia and its Communist philosophy.

We want world peace, but we want it to be based upon the principles of Freedom, democracy and liberty. This issue must be faced courageously and in a spirit of determination that the free people of no nation shall be forced to accept communism and Communist control against their will.

As we meet in this historic convention, labor throughout the nation is conscious of the fact that our enemies are seeking to destroy, or at least to limit and if possible wipe out our trade union movement through the enactment of vicious, reprehensible anti-labor laws. As a result, the militant spirit of the workers has been aroused as never before. That fact was reflected in the election which was held last November. The necessity and duty of thought and action on the part of developed to a high degree among working men and women and their friends everywhere. This fight for labor legislation and legislation is still on. For that reason, those in attendance at this convention will formulate policies designed to win victories for labor both on the political and legislative front. Social security and health insurance legislation, as well as adequate housing legislation, federal aid for education, minimum wage legislation and other measures call for labor's legislation will and must command the attention of the officers and delegates in attendance at this convention.

Our purpose is to bring about the realization of the hopes and aspirations of labor, to seek to establish a standard of living commensurate with the requirements of American citizenship. We cherish the principles of freedom, liberty, democracy and justice as a common heritage to be preserved at any cost and transmitted to future generations. In conformity with the record made by previous conventions, those in attendance at the 68th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor will make a genuine contribution toward the realization of this great objective.

WILLIAM GREEN, President. GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer.

Bright Prospects For U. S. Economy Seen In Report on Nation's Needs, Resources

New York.—A rosy picture of the economic future of the United States was painted today by the Twentieth Century Fund in a report based on an exhaustive study of the nation's needs and resources.

Decrying gloomy implications that our economic system was "running down," the report said the nation has "a huge backlog of unsatisfied wants ever possessed by a nation and with enormous opportunities for both public and private investment and business activity."

By stepping up our output only a few percent above normal expectations, based on the actual past performance of the economy, the report said, this country could produce enough by 1960 to provide adequate standards of food, housing, education and medical care for all Americans, the report said.

The fund's appraisal was contained in an illustrated booklet, "U. S. A.—Reasons to Believe," written by Thomas R. Carskadon and Rudolf Modley. The volume draws upon the findings of a nation-wide survey made by A. F. Ferguson & Associates, Inc., in that group $100 a month, less and $200 a month.

"By 1960," the report said, "we shall have an opportunity to put $45,000,000,000 a year into needed capital goods, the basis of our sustained record in the past, during the 1920s, we could be likely to put in about $39,000,000,000.

"The extra $6,000,000,000 is a measured margin of our ability to absorb heavy capital investment funds, the frontier on which our system can grow and expand indefinitely."

Discussing the present business recession, the report said:

"For the long run we can see that both boom and bust are passing events in the long record of our long-term advance. Wherever we may stand at any given moment—in boom or depression—or at any point in between—we can see ahead enormous tendencies underlying strength. We can count on it."

The report made this observation on the basis of an examination of every phase of the economic system:

"We mean it we get one overriding impression—our immense power to produce. We term this the highest standard of living ever attained by man. We mean more cars, better cars, more money, eats better food, has a better home, better clothes, schools, theaters, more conveniences, than the average citizen of any other country anywhere, any time."

By 1960, the report declared, the country's expected population of more than 165,000,000 will enjoy a gainable market of at least $150,000,000,000 in money spent by consumers."

"This would be a market spending three-quarters more than the $90,000,000,000 it took in during the peak year of 1929," the report added.

The Twentieth Century Fund was founded in 1919 and endowed by the late Edward A. Filene. The fund's income, administered as a public trust by a board of trustees, is devoted entirely to its own activities.

UN Council Calls For Inquiry On Slavery Throughout World

Geneva.—The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations called upon the UN to launch an immediate investigation of slavery.

The resolution, proposed by Great Britain, urged UN Secretary-General Trygve Lie to assemble a committee of experts, chosen without reference to nationality, to assess the existence and extent of slavery and to suggest methods of attacking the problem.

The debate on slavery stirred up the first really brisk Russian fuss] into the backyards of the Western powers since the council's ninth session began just over two weeks ago.

Dr. Amazasp A. Arutiunian accused the British in particular and "colonial" powers in general of concealing slavery in Africa, Asia and other non-self-governing areas. He wanted the resolution to be directed specifically at conditions in those territories. But a British government report to show that in Togoland children were sold and transferred to settle debts.

Sir Corley Smith, British delegate, struck the purpose to put the question in the hands of a group of experts rather than in the hands of a politible. He told the council that slavery in modern world was a problem in independent sovereign states rather than in colonies. It is precisely colonial powers that have done most to wipe out slavery from their territories, he said.

No names were mentioned, but it is clear the British believe that China and some of the newly independent countries of southeast Asia hold more dark secrets about slavery than the same X-ray, laboratory and polio benefits.

CHARTER IS GRANTED TO 107TH AFL UNION

Washington.—AFL President William Green issued a charter to the Railway Patternmen's International Union, the 107th organized labor group to become affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Issuance of the charter to the international was approved by the AFL Executive Council at its last quarterly meeting.

The new AFL affiliate has 53 local unions throughout the nation with a membership of 7,000 railway patrolmen. The present membership is approximately 2,500.

Price Cuts For Woolens, Radios Hearten Buyers

Washington.—American consumers were heartened by recent news of price slashes in such commodities as woolen goods, radios, and farm implements.

Other encouraging reports came from the steel and automobile industries, which have boosted production at a time when the output of other manufacturers was considerably off.

Price cuts were announced as follows:

1. The American Woolen Co., the world's largest manufacturer of woolen and worsted cloth said its New York it was making one of the biggest price cuts in men's suitings in almost 30 years.

The reductions will be on the spring and summer lines of men's suitings, running up to about 19 percent compared with April. In dollars and cents, the cuts range up to 70 cents a yard. The company said the cuts will hit about 75 per cent of fabrics, worsteds and tropicals, to the greatest possible degree.

2. Sears Roebuck announced at Chicago it was marking down refrigerators from 4 to 16 percent, at once. Costs of manufacture did not warrant a cut, the company said, but "the facts of our present economic situation make it apparent that the farmer must receive some price relief if the soaring farm implement market is to be stimulated."

Sample cuts: A side-delivery rake from $320 to $295; a grain binder from $186 to $169.50; a corn planter from $120 to $108.

3. Westinghouse Electric Corp. sliced prices of 16 radio models from $2 to $50, effective at once. Also hit by FM-shortwave-phonograph combination sets ranging from $499.95 to $299.95, down $200. Its phonograph combination consoles with AM-FM, formerly $229.95, is cut to $139.95—off $100. Other models reduced are two table models with standard band reception, two others with FM only, portable, 7 phonograph AM-FM combination consoles and 3 AM-FM console and two combination consoles.

In a similar slide of the television picture, the Federal Reserve Board reported that total industrial production declined in June for the 7th consecutive month to a 2-year low 12 percent under last November's record.

Some observers predicted that production would go off sharply from the height of the vacation season, but would show an upturn in the early fall.

P. M. KAISER NOMINATED TO HIGH LABOR DEPT. JOB

Washington.—Philip M. Kaiser, director of the Department of Labor's Office of International Labor Affairs, was nominated by President Truman as Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Kaiser, a native of New York City, was graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1935, where he was Phi Beta Kappa. He was awarded a to Oxford University, in England, as a Rhodes scholar. In 1938 he received a degree in philosophy, politics and economics. While at Oxford he studied the labor movements and economic conditions of Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Russia and Scandinavia.

He served with the Federal Reserve System, the Board of Economic Warfare, the Foreign Economic Administration, and the State Department's Division of International Organizational Affairs before joining the Department of Labor.

BROAD INSURANCE PLAN WON BY AUTO WORKERS

Lansing, Mich.—Local 182 of the AFL's United Automobile Workers of America has won a package of benefits amounting to from 8 to 10 cents an hour in new agreements with the Centrifugal Fusinr Co.

The benefits include an insurance program with all premiums paid for by the company. The insurance program provides for $2,000 in life and accidental death and dismemberment coverage; $255 a week sick benefits for 26 weeks; $8 a day up to 70 days in a hospital; $120 for hospital extras; and a $200 surgical schedule. Doctor calls to the home, hospital or office are covered up to $160 for any one disability. $25 is allowed for X-ray and laboratory fees, and a polio benefit of $1,500 rounds out this comprehensive coverage.

For dependents of the insured, the policy prescribes $6 a day for hospitalization up to 70 days; $120 for extras; a $200 surgical schedule and

Judge Holds Federal Rent Law Invalid; Housing Officials Will Appeal Decision

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent for AFL News Service

Chicago.—The 1949 act of Congress extending federal rent control was ruled unconstitutional by Judge Elwyn R. Shaw in U. S. District Court in a test case. If upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court, the ruling will mean the finish of federal rent controls.

Otto Kerner, Jr., U. S. attorney at Chicago, and Tyrrell Woods, U. S. housing expediter, said an appeal would be taken immediately to the Supreme Court. Meanwhile, the administration of rent control will continue.

Judge Shaw acted in the case of a cooperative apartment house building in Chicago, Shoreline Apartments, in which owners tried to evict tenants who refused to join the cooperative. The housing expediter used the case as an injunction to stop the eviction.

The housing expediter argued the cooperative owners could not evict the non-cooperative tenants because the owners' group did not own 66 percent of the property. Regulations of the expediter's office provide a building must be at least 66 percent owned by a cooperative if the cooperative is to obtain eviction rights against the remainder.

Judge Shaw didn't go into the merits of the argument. He said the act of Congress was unlawful in delegation to the states of the powers of Congress, and therefore unconstitutional. His court, therefore, had no jurisdiction to stop the eviction, he said.

"I last made the new rent control act unconstitutional, he held, was the logical option claim, and that this was provided that states could with-draw from participation," he said.

"I can see no difference between this situation," he ruled, "and one in which Congress should pass a selective service law with the provision that any state which doesn't care to send soldiers may pass a law and say they did not choose to be involved; or an interstate commerce act with the provision that any state that chose not to be governed thereby could declare itself out.

"I can see no reasonable reason to believe that an act of Congress under the war powers can contain any such provisions as might make it inoperative at the option of any and all of the various states, by their arbitrary refusal to comply with the standards or specifications of facts."

Judge Shaw pointed out that some states already have declared themselves out of federal control. Federal control over rent is legal under the war powers of the federal government, he said, so the decontrolled states have "regained their war efforts" as far as they are concerned.

"If the other states should see fit to do likewise," he said, "the act of Congress would be utterly nullified or completely emasculated without any further act of its own, and without regard to any power to make or amend laws."

Judge Shaw's ruling was not the first to find rent control unconstitutional. A Cleveland federal judge set Congress was unlawful in 1948, on ground Congress no longer had authority in the war powers. The U. S. Supreme Court reversed that decision.

Judge Shaw held that if Congress wanted to extend rent control it could have simply extended the expiration date of the old law. The effect of the new law, with the local option clause, was to end the ending of rent control as painlessly as possible.

Russian Law Code Exposes Soviet Reliance On Slaves

Geneva.—Concrete proof of the existence of the vicious forced labor system in Soviet Russia is contained in the translation of a Russian document released here by the British government.

The document, containing 167 subsections, is a carefully drafted, cold-blooded, statistical set of rules governing the forced labor camps now operated by the Communists for a double-barreled purpose; to eradicate Soviet citizens who do not toe the line laid down by the Kremlin, and to get vast public projects built with a minimum of expense.

Corley Smith, British delegate to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, distributed copies of the document, in both Russian and English texts, to members of the council. It will form the basis for the big attacks against Russian forced labor policies when the issue is debated by the council.

The coming discussion is another step in the AFL's long drive for an international investigation of the slave system. Last January, the United States delegate to the council supported AFL charges that millions of Russian citizens are held in slavery by the Soviet state, and urged action be taken by the United Nations.

Highlights from the Soviet document, which will make it impossible for the Russian representatives on the council to brush aside charges against the slave labor system, include the following:

There are 3 major divisions of the law, applying respectively to "corrective labor without deprivation of freedom," "corrective labor with deprivation of freedom" and "exile combined with corrective labor." Roughly speaking, these run from the milder to the most severe penalties.

Persons may be sentenced to forced labor by decision of a court or by "decree of an administrative organ." The latter term likewise applies to any branch of Soviet bureaucracy.

Individuals picked for corrective labor not involving deprivation of freedom are to report for work not less than 10 and not more than 30 days from the time of sentence. Those who refuse to report for registration or work at the time fixed may be enrolled by force," the code adds.

The severest punishment, solitary confinement, is reserved for persons who have been convicted of an offense during a period of investigation. "Solitary confinement in cells is intended solely for persons under investigation or trial." After that they become subject to one of various procedures, ranging from temporary forced labor to exile.

Senate Unit Approves Bill to Continue Federal Unemployment Aid For Vets

Washington.—Federal aid to unemployed veterans would be continued under terms of a measure approved by the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee.

The committee acted to extend, with some modifications, the present "52-20" program under which benefit payments have been averaging about $16,000,000 a week.

President Truman asked that the program be continued, but the House version of the extension bill is given a small chance.

Under the program, unemployed veterans are called up to $20 a week for 52 weeks.

President Truman had proposed a modification, saying: "Such benefits should not be available to those eligible for unemployment compensation under state laws except where necessary to bring state payments up to the federal level, or when state benefits are used up."

The Senate committee accordingly adopted an amendment to require veterans to file claims under state programs or any other benefit program available before they could qualify for federal aid. The latter term likewise received $15 a week for example, under state programs, the veterans' program would make up the $5 difference.

Senator Claude Pepper, Democrat of Florida, author of the amendment, would save the federal government about $100,000,000 a year.

The committee provided, however, that if the House version of the extension bill is given a small chance.

Under the program, unemployed veterans are called up to $20 a week for 52 weeks.

President Truman had proposed a modification, saying: "Such benefits should not be available to those eligible for unemployment compensation under state laws except where necessary to bring state payments up to the federal level, or when state benefits are used up."

The Senate committee accordingly adopted an amendment to require veterans to file claims under state pro-

PERUVIAN DIPLOMAT NAMED TO HIGH-LEVEL ILO POST

Geneva. — Director-General David Morse announced the appointment of Luis Alvarado, Peruvian diplomat and educator, as Assistant Director-General of the ILO.

Dr. Alvarado served as minister counsellor in the Peruvian Embassy in Ottawa before being appointed Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. He has represented Peru on the ILO's governing body since 1944 and served as its chairman in 1948. He will be the first Latin American to serve on the executive committee of the ILO.

Dr. Alvarado was born in Lima in 1907. In Peru he occupied professional posts at the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, the Arts and Crafts National School, and the Universidad Catolica.

He has represented his country at numerous international conferences, including the 1945 charter session of the United Nations in San Francisco. He was also a delegate to the first and third sessions of the UN General Assembly.

AFL AUTO WORKERS UNION REPORTS GAINS IN ILLINOIS

Decatur, Ill.—The recently announced organizational drive in the Decatur area by the AFL United Automobile Workers of America resulted in the signing of 1,000 members, according to word received from Director Earl Bramblett.

Employes at the Bohner Co. in Danville, Ill., voted for the UAW-AFL as bargaining agent, thereby winning a new local union, which is being assisted by Ralph Hodges by the Soviet state, and urged action be taken by the United Nations.

Highlights from the Soviet document, which will make it impossible for the Russian representatives on the council to brush aside charges against the slave labor system, include the following:

There are 3 major divisions of the law, applying respectively to "corrective labor without deprivation of freedom" and "exile combined with corrective labor." Roughly speaking, these run from the milder to the most severe penalties.

Persons may be sentenced to forced labor by decision of a court or by "decree of an administrative organ." The latter term likewise applies to any branch of Soviet bureaucracy.

Individuals picked for corrective labor not involving deprivation of freedom are to report for work not less than 10 and not more than 30 days from the time of sentence. Those who refuse to report for registration or work at the time fixed may be enrolled by force," the code adds.

The severest punishment, solitary confinement, is reserved for persons who have been convicted of an offense during a period of investigation. "Solitary confinement in cells is intended solely for persons under investigation or trial." After that they become subject to one of various procedures, ranging from temporary forced labor to exile.

Living Costs Rise Slightly Due to Higher Food Prices

Washington.—The cost of living for moderate-income families in the nation's big cities rose slightly during the last month, it was reported here.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that its consumers' price index rose 0.4 percent from mid-May to mid-June.

This change put the index at 169.6 percent of the 1935-39 average; but it was 3.4 percent lower than a year ago. It was 69.6 percent higher than in June, 1946, when price "ceilings" were removed. The current figure, too, is 70 percent above the August, 1939, level.

Food prices rose 3 percent. Rents and fuels rose slightly, also. These increases were partly offset by declines of 1.2 percent in the prices of house furnishings; 3 percent in the miscellaneous group of goods and services, and 0.6 percent in clothing, down 4 percent.

The food index on June 14 was 204.3 percent of the 1935-39 average, 3.7 percent lower than a year ago, but 40 percent above the June, 1946 level. Retail prices of eggs declined 8 percent and were 33 per cent of 56 of the cities surveyed. Memphis, Los Angeles and Seattle were exceptions.

The rise in food prices over the month was due principally to moderate-seasonal increases of 6 percent in fresh fruits and 5 percent in prices of eggs. Beverages, sugar and sweets also rose fractionally. Prices of all cuts of meat rose during the month, except for 1 percent for pork chops, 7 percent for round steak and chuck roast, and 8 percent for liver.

Fresh fruits and vegetables declined 1.5 percent, contrary to the usual seasonal increase. Prices of canned fruits of cabbage and tomatoes, frozen green beans and spinach more than 6 percent, and potatoes more than 3 percent. Frozen fish sticks declined 3 percent, and canned salmon 2 percent.

Prices of wearing apparel, declining for the eighth consecutive month, fell 4 percent in the May-June period, to a level of 8.6 percent below the peak reached in October, 1948. Prices of men's, women's and boys' furnishings continued to fall. Lower prices were reported for footwear, men's overcoats, men's dresses and cotton house dresses.

The index for the cost of housefurnishings fell 1.2 percent from May to June 15, in price drops of sheets, curtains, electric refrigerators, radios, phonographs, living room, bedroom and dining room furniture, and floor coverings. Housefurnishings prices on June 15 were about 6 percent below the peak.

Rents increased slightly to continue for the third month the upward trend found in all of the cities surveyed.

Green Charges New Senate Labor Probe Instigated to Bolster Byrd Machine

Washington.—AFL President William Green denounced the Senate labor investigation of labor practices by unions as purely a political stunt to bolster up the Democratic Byrd political machine in Virginia and to influence the coming election in the current gubernatorial campaign.

The inquiry instituted by Senator A. Willis Robertson of Virginia is the Senate Committee on Labor and Banking and Currency Committee.

Mr. Green said, "The real and only conclusive evidence of the probe's commercial racketeering is explained that Senator Robertson, "a subservient tool of the Byrd machine," had bypassed the only 2 logical Senate committees to conduct such an investigation, the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare and the Banking and Currency Committee, in order to keep "personal control" of the probe.

The text of Mr. Green's statement follows:

"The political motivation behind the Senate investigation of alleged monopolistic practices by unions, began today by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee at the instigation of Senator A. Willis Robertson of Virginia, should be exposed.

It should be obvious that the real purpose of this investigation is to serve as a smoke screen for political machine in Virginia and to bolster up the Democratic party in the current gubernatorial campaign.

The inquiry instituted by Senator A. Willis Robertson of Virginia is the Senate Committee on Labor and Banking and Currency Committee.

Mr. Green said, "The real and only conclusive evidence of the probe's commercial racketeering is explained that Senator Robertson, "a subservient tool of the Byrd machine," had bypassed the only 2 logical Senate committees to conduct such an investigation, the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare and the Banking and Currency Committee, in order to keep "personal control" of the probe.

The text of Mr. Green's statement follows:

"The political motivation behind the Senate investigation of alleged monopolistic practices by unions, began today by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee at the instiga-

COST OF LIVING OFF 1.8% IN NEW JERSEY FOR JUNE

Trenton, N. J.—Living costs, which reached peak levels in June, 1948, for clothing, fuel and light, furniture and home furnishing and miscellaneous necessities, were 1.8 percent lower during June of this year than in June of the same month of 1948, but still 78.1 percent higher than in the similar period of 1939, the prewar year, D. T. Pitt, statistical supervisor of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, reported.

During the last month the purchasing value of the New Jersey consumer dollar was 56.1 cents, compared with 55.2 a year ago and 100 cents in the 1935-39 period, calculated. Compared with April the average cost of living was 0.2 percent higher and rent 0.2 percent more.

Price rises before these were offset by declines in such important budget items as clothing, 2 percent less than in April; fuel and light, 1.5 percent; house furniture and home furnishings, 2.5 percent down, miscellaneous, 0.7 percent less.

Expenditures for all commodities and services used by an average family in New Jersey during June were 4.4 percent less than the peak reported for August, 1948.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

LABOR DAY SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1949 GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Write Your Senators And Congressmen to Repeal T-H Law

LABOR DAY MESSAGE

By JOHN P. FREY
President, Metal Trades Department

On Labor Day we review the progress made during the year, and give consideration to the problems we face. On Labor Day this year we may well consider the outstanding problem facing us in the immediate future.

Our principal problem, the greatest menace to human liberty and free institutions, is one which equally affects every free trade union and every nation of self-governing people. All of our other problems are insignificant in comparison with the menace of Communist Russia.

If the free nations, with the active assistance of their national trade unions, fail to adopt policies which will successfully deal with this problem, then our national industrial and political problems which now give concern, will no longer trouble us, for if Moscow has its way we will have the industrial and political liberty to be found in a prison camp.

Where Moscow has complete control, as in Russia, there exists an army of slave labor numbering many millions. Workmen who, openly or privately, question the wisdom of Moscow's policy and labor directives, are charged with treason to the state, and are treated accordingly. Labor works as Moscow directs.

There is no freedom of travel from one part of the country to another. The worker has no choice of jobs. He works where the Kremlin assigns time. He is subject to fines and imprisonment in labor camps if he resists arbitrary control or violates some of the many factory rules and regulations which are established.

Labor conditions in Russia, so far as competent observers have been able to see them, or those escaping from that country testify, have created a condition where, instead of there existing a dictatorship of the proletariat, there has been established something much more resembling a penitentiary state.

Moscow has destroyed the free trade union movements of every country it has brought under control. Moscow's officially announced program is to extend its dictatorship over every nation enjoying free institutions. To accomplish this it maintains a spy and propaganda agency in every free country.

It is to Moscow's active, determined effort to accomplish its purpose that the menace to our free institutions has become definitely implied.

The establishing of free institutions in the countries of the other Europe and our own, required hundreds of years of self-sacrificing, patriotic effort. For every right as free men which we now enjoy, have men and women sacrificed their lives in every generation since the dark ages.

Liberty, the establishment of free institutions under government by law, are the most valuable, the most priceless possession men can have. The people can win these, and then lose them, has been made apparent by Moscow's extension of power and authority.

The free trade union movement in Western Europe and all America has been properly named the Gibraltar of Democracy. Our responsibility is to make this Gibraltar of free institutions stronger than ever.

One outstanding accomplishment during the past year was the successful effort of the American Federa-

JOHN FREY

tion of Labor to carry forward the principle of a new international federation of labor which would exclude the slave labor trade union tactics, and those of the satellite countries.

It may well be that when the history of this period is written, it will be found that an international federation of labor which excluded the state organized and controlled unions of the Soviet orbit, played a great a part in saving free institutions as the organized effort of defense which have been entered into by the self-governing countries.

We never have had greater reason to be proud of the American trade union movement as represented by the American Federation of Labor. There has never been greater opportunity to serve our country and all of the other nations composed of free men.

No workman can be a good trade unionist without being a good American.

Good Americans today will close their ranks with a determination to maintain their free institutions, regardless of the sacrifices which may be necessary.

The march of Russian dictatorship must be halted, so that freedom will not perish from the earth.

THE HISTORY OF LABOR DAY

Labor Day rightfully belongs to American workers who toll diligently day after day to contribute their share to the greatness of this nation.

The long before Labor Day became a legal public holiday it was celebrated by workers as a day of festive activity. It was the one day in their daily tasks. It was the creation of workers, and of workers only. It was the brainchild of a union carpenter 12 long years before Labor Day was proclaimed a national holiday by act of Congress.

Peter J. McGuire, a native of New York City who joined the ranks of America's toilers while still a child, was the father of the observance in honor of the country's working people.

In May of 1882, he stood before the newly organized Central Labor Union of New York City and proposed that one day of the year be set aside as a general holiday for the working masses.

McGuire suggested that the holiday be known as Labor Day and that it be set for the first Monday in September, which would fall midway between two national holidays—the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving.

Other delegates to the meeting enthusiastically endorsed the idea. A committee was named and soon preparations were under way for the initial celebration of Labor Day.

Approximately two years after the first Labor Day, the 26 delegates to the fourth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor held in Chicago adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the first Monday in September of each year be set apart as a laborers' national holiday, and we recommend legislation to secure a state legislation making Labor Day a legal holiday, as set by the 1887, Oregon enacted the first state law, but the movement reached its first Saturday in June as Labor Day. It was changed to the first Monday in September in 1893. Ultimately, 30 states proclaimed Labor Day a legal holiday.

The Labor Committee of the House of Representatives in May of 1894 presented a favorable report on a bill making Labor Day a legal public holiday.

By June 28 of that year Congressional action on the bill had been completed and two days later the measure was signed by President Grover Cleveland. The pen used by the President was turned over to Representative Amos J. Cummings of New York City, who sponsored the bill in the House. Cummings then sent the pen to President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor.

Thus, a dozen years after McGuire first advanced the idea of a special holiday honoring labor before the Central Labor Union of New York City, the proposal had the approval of the highest governmental officials through their elected representatives at Washington.

Over the years since 1882 much has been said concerning the significance of Labor Day. One of the best statements was made by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in an editorial written 40 years ago. Many of Gompers' statements are timeless in character. His words:

"No day in the calendar is a greater holiday, one more truly to be regarded as a real holiday, or one which is so surely destined to endure for all time, than the first Monday in September, which is known as Labor Day.

"Labor Day differs in every essential from the other holidays of the year. Most of them are 'days.' Labor days are in, a more or less degree, expressions of the struggle of the rise of man's prowess over man, of strife and bloodshed, of victories and glories achieved by one nation over another.

"Labor Day, on the other hand, is the expression of the rise of actual human history. It is at once a manifestation of the growing spirit of amicables of the masses against tyranny and despotism, and a demonstration of an impetus to battle for the right in each day for the welfare, security, children of our time and gives hope and encouragement for the attainment of the aspirations for the future of the human family.

"It is devoted to no man, living or dead; to no sect, race or nationality. It is founded upon the highest principles of humanity, is as broad in its scope as the universe.

"It was not given to but conquered by labor, and established as a holiday before any legislature, state or national, enacted it into law.

"The marching toilers in the Labor Day demonstrations signalize no martial glory, brutal domination, conquests or warlike pomp. They are, rather, the manifestations of the awakening intelligence of the workers, a recognition that peace is an essential of successful industry and real progress and that war is inimical to animals; that justice to the toilers has too long been denied; that the cement of the civilization of the close of the 19th Century, wrongs too long tolerated will not and cannot require mention here, still abound; that if man is to be free in the time to come, eternal vigilance must be exercised, organization of the workers proclaimed, maintained and extended; education of the masses as well as of the masses be furthered in pursuing, and agitation for the redress of wrongs endured and rights denied undertaken, with all the zest and energy begotten by devotion to a cause which is the most holy, pure, lofty, just, wise and humane.

Newspaper accounts have preserved for us the color attending the first celebration of the first Labor Day in New York City when American labor, led by Peter J. McGuire, paraded in number of the city.

After the picnic in Elm Park following the parade, one newspaper said: "The day's programme was thoroughly successful, though by a given signal, have tightened up their wage policy, using the pretext that the cost of living has increased, and in addition

It is true that union prices have fallen, but the cost of living to the consumer has not fallen in proportion. Many articles are higher to-day than they were a year ago, because other prices have gone up sharply in the past year, especially rents. The union enforced with the employers' consent, has been fought courageously and are still fighting for reasonable increases to pay their members enough to meet the increased cost of living.

All this time, in the midst of distressing and threatening developments, the trade union movement has been handicapped and repressed by the grim impediments of the Taft-Hartley Act. No other single factor during the past 14 years has been so disastrous.

Tragically, the drive to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act during the first session of the 81st Congress has been unsuccessful. Despite the overwhelming repudiation of the reactionary policies of the 80th Congress by the voters in 1948, and despite the clear and unequivocal pledges of President Truman, the new Congress was hogtied by a coalition of Tory Republicans and Dixiecrats. The net result of all progressive legislation, except for the public housing bill, fell victim to the coalition's axe. This was a severe setback for labor, but the reactionaries will find that out in 1950. I am confident that the workers of this country will turn out to the polls in unprecedented numbers in the 1950 congressional elections and break the hated coalition by defeating its members. The American Federation of Labor's League for Political Action, the aggressive political arm of the American Federation of Labor, is going to redouble its efforts to help bring about this major objective.

On the world front, communism suffered a crucial blow by the disintegration of the so-called World Federation of Trade Unions by the decision of the free, democratic trade union organizations in more than 50 nations to establish a new world body free of any connection with Moscow. To my mind, this action will go a long way toward preventing any further spread of Soviet totalitarian dictatorship and aggressionism over the free nations. Thus the leadership of free labor is helping actively and materially to keep the world free.

LABOR DAY, 1949

By WILLIAM GREEN
President of the American Federation of Labor

The keynote of all our Labor Day celebrations this year must be a call to action—action to preserve the free American way of life from the threat of domestic fascism and world communism.

Both on the national and international fronts, America is involved in a cold war. In our own country, reactionary forces are attempting to turn the clock backward and are gambling upon a depression to return them to power over the nation's economic and political life. On the world front, the leaders of the Kremlin are also gambling upon a depression to weaken American resistance and to enable them to gain dominion over all of Europe and Asia.

We must not allow that depression to take place. Our government must make every effort to prevent it. And the trade union movement must militantly organize to meet and defend its standards so that mass purchasing power, the nourishing force of our economic life, can keep the wheels of industry turning.

During the past year, for the first time since prewar days, unemployment began to swell. It has not as yet reached alarming proportions, nor is it likely to do so. But it is a dangerous symptom and prompt measures must be taken to correct it before it is too late. Labor favors the preparation of a huge shelf of public work projects, ready to be set in motion if the need develops to create new jobs.

At the same time, the trend toward high wage rates has ended. In most stubborn resistance in many

WILLIAM GREEN

basic industries, employers have brought their strength, although by a given signal, have tightened up their wage policy, using the pretext that the cost of living has increased, and in addition

years. While business continues to derive huge profits, employers have enough strength, though by a given signal, have tightened up their wage policy, using the pretext that the cost of living has increased, and in addition

It is true that union prices have fallen, but the cost of living to the consumer has not fallen in proportion. Many articles are higher to-day than they were a year ago, because other prices have gone up sharply in the past year, especially rents. The union enforced with the employers' consent, has been fought courageously and are still fighting for reasonable increases to pay their members enough to meet the increased cost of living.

All this time, in the midst of distressing and threatening developments, the trade union movement has been handicapped and repressed by the grim impediments of the Taft-Hartley Act. No other single factor during the past 14 years has been so disastrous.

Tragically, the drive to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act during the first session of the 81st Congress has been unsuccessful. Despite the overwhelming repudiation of the reactionary policies of the 80th Congress by the voters in 1948, and despite the clear and unequivocal pledges of President Truman, the new Congress was hogtied by a coalition of Tory Republicans and Dixiecrats. The net result of all progressive legislation, except for the public housing bill, fell victim to the coalition's axe. This was a severe setback for labor, but the reactionaries will find that out in 1950. I am confident that the workers of this country will turn out to the polls in unprecedented numbers in the 1950 congressional elections and break the hated coalition by defeating its members. The American Federation of Labor's League for Political Action, the aggressive political arm of the American Federation of Labor, is going to redouble its efforts to help bring about this major objective.

On the world front, communism suffered a crucial blow by the disintegration of the so-called World Federation of Trade Unions by the decision of the free, democratic trade union organizations in more than 50 nations to establish a new world body free of any connection with Moscow. To my mind, this action will go a long way toward preventing any further spread of Soviet totalitarian dictatorship and aggressionism over the free nations. Thus the leadership of free labor is helping actively and materially to keep the world free.

For Labor Day Editorials:

Gains Won by Labor Aid Whole Nation Says Tobin in Special Holiday Message

By MAURICE J. TOBIN
U. S. Secretary of Labor

Labor Day is a good time to recall some of the lessons taught us by the history of the nation and the history of American labor—that labor's gains are for the benefit of the whole nation, and that all of us, including labor, must work constantly for the national progress. For progress is a necessity in a democracy.

The labor movement started almost before the ink was dry on the Constitution of the United States, and it has progressed over the years with the nation grew.

Labor's activities have been steadily in support of economic and political progress, and labor has, in many fields, notably including civil rights.

Labor Day gives us an opportunity for a breathing spell, and time for rest and recreation, but also to study and assess the work of the past and the promise of the future.

Together labor and the nation have made progress, especially during the last 16 years. Today workers have obtained better standards of living, both for themselves and for their families, and they have contributed to the prosperity of our other economic elements in the country through increased purchasing power.

But in too many areas, sweatshop conditions have existed for periods, underpaying and foreign totalitarianism.

The Labor Day theme of the Department of the American Federation of Labor, therefore, urges the trade union movement of international, national and federal unions, unions label leagues and women's auxiliaries to always assume the responsibility for trade and union button. By so doing, we shall guarantee employment of our fellow trade unionists, maintain union wages and union labor standards and help to secure America's economic stability and security.

For Labor Day Editorials:

Ornburn Urges Labor to Gain Offensive Points to AFL's Long Drive For Progress

By I. M. ORNBURN
Secretary-Treasurer Union Label Trades Department

As trade unionists, let's get on the offensive! We should never let our enemies place us on the defensive. Officials and members of the American Federation of Labor have put much of which to be proud. Let's voices our winning cards on the table. We should never allow labor's opposition to cripple us with vicious anti-union legislation or with poison anti-labor propaganda. All we have to do is to "sell" to the public the following facts: The American Federation of Labor has been the pioneer in our "American way of life" that purchasing power forms the major portion of all economic and union label goods are the best in both quality and workmanship; union services are the most efficient, and the benefits of the AFL's battle during the past 68 years for decent wages, hours and working conditions are enjoyed by all the people of these United States and Canada.

To fulfill the AFL movement by taking the offensive, let's make this Week, September 5-10, over Labor Day, forward in a splendid program to do the positive thing and start a drive for union label goods and union services.

Current wages, hours of toil and modern standards come so easy to new members of labor unions that many great benefits are not always fully appreciated by them. To change working conditions, pioneer labor leaders made great sacrifices. They suffered imprisonment, clubbings and sometimes shot down in the battle to broaden-day standards of living. Many now living, can recall when workers toiled 10 hours a day and men worked over 12 hours each day in the week. Today, because the organized workers receive more than a day for one day's work, workers for their week is generally recognized in all industries.

At our Union Industries Show, the dramatized displays of union label seeing union-crafted products made and witnessing union label union services performed are most effective answers to the pitiful publicity campaigns and foreign totalitarianism.

The Labor Day theme of the Department of the American Federation of Labor, therefore, urges the trade union of international, national and federal unions, unions label leagues and women's auxiliaries to always assume the responsibility for trade and union button. By so doing, we shall guarantee employment of our fellow trade unionists, maintain union wages and union labor standards and help to secure America's economic stability and security.

GREEN PLEADS ADDRESS AT SAN DIEGO RALLY

Washington.—AFL President William Green plans to deliver the principal address at a gigantic Labor Day rally here, San Diego, Calif.

In addition to his Labor Day address, which will mark the first time that Mr. Green has attended a West Coast rally, he is expected to talk before the annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor meeting this year in Los Angeles.

Mr. Green's Labor Day message will be broadcast over the network of the National Broadcasting Co. The exact time of the broadcast will be announced when final plans have been completed.

For Labor Day:

Hoffman Praises Labor for Backing Of Marshall Plan

By PAUL G. HOFFMAN
ECA Administrator

This year we have a particularly good reason to honor American labor. Never in the past 3 years has the Marshall Plan has been under way. All American groups were asked to help in this great adventure, aimed at increasing those conditions in Europe in which men could live in decency, dignity and freedom. American labor responded magnificently with the constant and vigorous support of the Marshall Plan helped make possible the results we can see today. Your generosity in lending us your leaders to help work out the European Recovery Program helped assure prosperity and your determination that it succeed.

I wish personally to greet you on this day. I wish personally to thank you for your unlimited assistance and cooperation in the operation of a program for its eradication in every part of the globe. No matter where this soul-crushing and utterly inhuman slave economy exists, it must be abolished root and branch.

The text of the "Collection of Laws and Decrees" regarding slave labor in the Soviet Russia forcefully confirms the fact that this dire threat to human dignity is of great scope and extensive than our worst fears had led us to believe. Indeed, it revealed the distressing fact that punishment by slave labor is virtually exploitation of man by man for the profit of the Soviet ruling and parasitical clique is an organic feature of the Soviet economic system in Soviet Russia and its concepts of law, justice and human dignity. Even in a terrible challenge to the freedom-loving people of all lands. The fate of the German people is the most instructive example. The Soviet government has reduced the entire distinguished service to the cause of human freedom and decency.

The American Federation of Labor is especially gratified with the publication of this historic, though tragic, document. This publication will serve to win still greater support for the campaign to eliminate the rising danger of forced labor as initiated by the American Federation of Labor through its consultants to the United Nations Economic and Social Council more than two years ago. We welcome and support the action subsequently taken by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in acting on the our resolution for a worldwide survey of the degrading character and scope of a program for its eradication in every part of the globe. No matter where this soul-crushing and utterly

LABOR EDITOR NAMED TO LONDON ECA POST

Washington.—The appointment of William G. Gausman as chief of information officer for the United Kingdom ECA Mission to London was announced by Administrator Paul G. Hoffman.

Since January, 1948, Gausman has been editor of Labor Press Associates, an independent news service for trade union papers. He was one of 3 labor editors who recently toured Marshall Plan countries to observe the effects of the European Recovery Program. It was what he saw on that trip, Gausman says, that influenced his decision to accept the ECA post.

In his new government post, Gausman will work with James Killen, vice president of the AFL's Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, who is serving as labor adviser to the United Kingdom Mission.

SENATE GROUP BACKS BILL FOR MINE SAFETY

Washington.—The Senate Labor Committee agreed to give the Bureau authority to federal mine inspectors to investigate fatal accidents.

The safety measure before the Labor Committee has the support of the United Mine Workers and is opposed by representatives of the coal mine industry and by state mine agencies.

The UMWA started its drive for a federal law after the mine disaster at Centralia, Ill., in 1947, in which 111 miners were killed. An investigation of the disaster brought out that federal mine inspectors repeatedly had recommended that the pit be closed until safety measures were taken.

Under current law, Federal inspectors may only recommend action. State agencies alone have the power to close mines or take other steps to enforce safety regulations.

19% RENT BOOST ALLOWED ON 98,608 RENTAL UNITS

Washington.—Landlords are getting a break under the new Federal Rent Control Act of 1949.

Tighe E. Woods, housing expediter, reported that in May and June, 50,752 landlords' petitions were granted, increasing rents on 98,608 rental units. Rents were increased an average of $6.50 per month per unit, or about 19 percent, the announcement said.

Sixty percent of the increases were granted on grounds of expenditures by landlords for major capital improvements and increases in services. Forty percent were granted for hardship and inequity relief.

In the same two months, area rent offices handled 83,665 complaints of overcharges. In 29,969 cases where violations were discovered, compliance was obtained. There were 11,871 overcharge cases in which landlords were required to pay $940,876 in refunds to tenants and payment to the federal treasury.

Also, there were 12,121 cases in which the landlord had refused essential services and were required either to restore the services or reduce the rent.

More than 20,000 certificates of eviction were issued throughout the country in the 3-month period.

18% RENT INCREASE OK'D ON 142,000 DWELLING UNITS

Newark, N. J.—Rent increases have been granted on 142,000 dwelling units throughout the country under the federal Rent Control Act became effective, Tighe E. Woods, expediter, for Woods reported in an address here.

The average monthly increase on each unit was $6.40, representing a boost of about 19 percent. Nearly 60 percent of the upward adjustments allowed were for major improvements or additional services, while 40 percent were granted on hardship grounds or fair-income provisions of the law, Woods said.

The housing expediter also cited figures showing the protection of forded tenants under the present act. Since May 1, 83,665 petitions have been ordered in 22,000 cases to restore services which had been discontinued or reduce the rents to compensate for the reduced services. Settlements in 18,500 overcharge cases were obtained during that period, in the amount of $1,500,000. While 28,500 eviction certificates were granted during the period, almost 7,000 applications for certificates were denied because they did not comply with the grounds for eviction and in 10,000 additional cases evictions were prevented.

Note to Editors

It was impossible to include in this edition a Labor Day message from George Meany, AFL Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Meany's statement will appear in one of the forthcoming issues of the news service.

Additional material pertinent to Labor Day will be included in later editions as it becomes available.

FOOD, STEEL PRODUCTION AT NEAR RECORD LEVELS

Washington.—Reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics show near record output for some of the nation's basic commodities.

The official forecasts of the 1949 wheat crop was 1,188,000,000 bushels. Although this is 149,000,000 bushels below the June forecast, the crop is the third largest on record. The corn crop is estimated at 3,230,000,000 bushels, the largest production in history. Steel output in the first half of 1949 was 45,928,000 tons.

U. S. POPULATION GROWS AT RATE OF 200,000 MONTH

Washington.—The United States Census Bureau put the 149,000,000 mark, according to Census Bureau figures, released here.

The bureau estimated that the population increasing by nearly 200,000 a month in the first half of 1949. Although this is 149,002,000 on June 1. No later figures were given but the rate of increase indicated that the population was now well over 149,000,000.

Since the last census on April 1, 1940, there has been a 12.1 percent increase in population.

LABOR DAY, 1949

By WILLIAM GREEN
President of the American Federation of Labor

The keynote of all our Labor Day celebrations this year must be a call to action—action to preserve the free American way of life from the threat of domestic fascism and world communism.

Both on the national and international fronts, America is involved in a cold war. In our own country, reactionary forces are attempting to turn the clock backward and are gambling upon a depression to return them to power over the nation's economic and political life. On the world front, the leaders of the Kremlin are also gambling upon a depression to weaken American resistance and to enable them to gain dominion over all of Europe and Asia.

We must not allow that depression to take place. Our government must make every effort to prevent it. And the trade union movement must militantly organize to meet and defend its standards so that mass purchasing power, the nourishing force of our economic life, can keep the wheels of industry turning.

During the past year, for the first time since prewar days, unemployment began to swell. It has not as yet reached alarming proportions, nor is it likely to do so. But it is a dangerous symptom and prompt measures must be taken to correct it before it is too late. Labor favors the preparation of a huge shelf of public work projects, ready to be set in motion if the need develops to create new jobs.

At the same time, the trend toward high wage rates has ended. In most stubborn resistance in many basic industries, employers have brought their strength, although by a given signal, have tightened up their wage policy, using the pretext that the cost of living has increased, and in addition

For Immediate Release:

Woll Says New Data on Forced Labor Irrefutable Proof of Russian System

By MATTHEW WOLL
Chairman, AFL International Labor Relations Committee

The following statement was issued after the British government made public an English translation of the code of laws of Soviet Russia setting forth the detailed regulations for the operation of her vicious forced labor system.

The working people of all nations owe a debt of deep gratitude to the government of Great Britain for its making public and available to the free world the text of the forced labor laws governing the Soviet slave empire.

By presenting the full and official text of the "Chronological Collection of Laws and Decrees of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and Ordinances" regarding the system of forced labor in Soviet Russia, the British government has placed further irrefutable proof of the monstrous slave economy to which all of the Russian people is the most intensive and extensive slave economy ever known to the world cannot and will not be truly free so long as this slave economy exists.

The American Federation of Labor is especially gratified with the publication of this historic, though tragic, document. This publication will serve to win still greater support for the campaign to eliminate the rising danger of forced labor as initiated by the American Federation of Labor through its consultants to the United Nations Economic and Social Council more than two years ago. We welcome and support the action subsequently taken by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in acting on the our resolution for a worldwide survey of the degrading character and scope of a program for its eradication in every part of the globe. No matter where this soul-crushing and utterly

Hoffman Praises Labor for Backing Of Marshall Plan

By PAUL G. HOFFMAN
ECA Administrator

This year we have a particularly good reason to honor American labor. Never in the past 3 years has the Marshall Plan has been under way. All American groups were asked to help in this great adventure, aimed at increasing those conditions in Europe in which men could live in decency, dignity and freedom. American labor responded magnificently with the constant and vigorous support of the Marshall Plan helped make possible the results we can see today. Your generosity in lending us your leaders to help work out the European Recovery Program helped assure prosperity and your determination that it succeed.

I wish personally to greet you on this day. I wish personally to thank you for your unlimited assistance and cooperation in the operation of a program for its eradication in every part of the globe. No matter where this soul-crushing and utterly